

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

OFA-01 DLOS-05 IO-10 CG-00 DOTE-00 /123 W

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R 301110Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5369

INFO CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0595

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR IC NATO

SUBJECT: FOREIGN RELATIONS CHAIRMAN LINKS EEC TARIFF ISSUE TO
NATO RELATIONSHIP

1. IN PROGRESSIVE PARTY'S DAILY TIMINN MAY 29, PAPER'S EDITOR
(AND ALTHING'S FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN) THORARINN
THORARINSSON SAID ICELAND'S ATTITUDE TOWARD NATO AND WESTERN
COOPERATION GENERALLY WOULD BE COLORED BY CONTINUING FRG VETO
OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ICELAND-EEC TARIFF AGREEMENT.

2. EDITORIAL APPLAUDED LAST WEEK'S WARNING BY MINISTER OF COMMERCE
OLAFUR JOHANNESSON (WHO IS ALSO CHAIRMAN OF PROGRESSIVE PARTY)
THAT ICELAND WOULD TERMINATE TIES WITH COMMON MARKET IF LATTER
DID NOT END DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ICELANDIC IMPORTS STEMMING FROM
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FAILURE OF FRG AND ICELAND TO REACH FISHERIES AGREEMENT.

THORARINSSON SAID ICELAND WOULD NEVER BE BULLIED INTO ALLOWING GERMAN FREEZER TRAWLERS INSIDE 50-MILE ZONE AND CONTINUED, "IN FACT, THIS ISSUE INVOLVES NOT ONLY THE EEC BUT NATO AS WELL.... IT CAN NEVER BE AN AUSPICIOUS OCCASION FOR NATO WHEN ONE OF ITS LARGE STATES IMPOSES TARIFF RESTRICTIONS AND LANDING BANS ON SMALL MEMBER WHICH IS ONLY UPHOLDING ITS TERRITORIAL WATER RIGHTS. THIS MUST INFLUENCE ICELANDIC OPINION TOWARD WESTERN COOPERATION GENERALLY."

3. THORARINSSON IS ONE OF MOST POWERFUL FIGURES IN COALITION PARTNER PROGRESSIVE PARTY AND IN PARLIAMENT, AND HIS PRONOUNCEMENTS IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS CARRY SIGNIFICANT WEIGHT. ON OTHER HAND, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT NEITHER OLAFUR JOHANNESSON, IN DENOUNCING ABSENCE OF TARIFF AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION, NOR ANY OTHER GOI SPOKESMAN, HAS PUBLICLY LINKED ISSUE WITH ICELAND'S NATO RELATIONSHIP.
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